

STATE SENATOR • GILDA Z. JACOBS • 14TH DISTRICT

Jacobs Press Release

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HEALTH GROUP NAMES SEN. GILDA JACOBS **“LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR”** ***MI Surgeon General says special recognition “well deserved.”***

LANSING – The Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America – Michigan Chapter has named Senator Gilda Z. Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods) as Legislator of the Year.

Jacobs was the primary author of Public Act 120 which permits children to carry and self-administer asthma inhalers and/or epinephrine auto-injectors while attending Michigan camps.

“The new legislation reduces delays in dispensing medication for children with allergies or asthma, and timely intervention is essential when children suffer asthma attacks or severe allergic reactions,” said MI Surgeon General Kimberlydawn Wisdom, MD, MS. “This new legislation mitigates delays in dispensing medication for children who attend camps throughout our state.”

Michigan is the third state in the United States to pass such life-saving legislation.

Nearly 5 million of the nation’s 20 million asthma sufferers are under age 18. It is the most common chronic childhood disease, affecting more than one in 20 children. Among children ages five to 17, asthma is the leading cause of school absences from a chronic illness.

The Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) is the leading patient organization for people with asthma and allergies. Founded in 1953, the AAFA provides practical information, community based services and support through a national network of chapters and support groups. The AAFA also develops health education, organizes state and national advocacy efforts and funds research to find better treatments and cures.

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State Senator Gilda Jacobs represents the 14th Senate District, which includes Farmington, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Twp., and Southfield. She is Minority Vice Chair of the Families & Human Services Committee and the Economic Development, Small Business & Regulatory Reform Committee. She also serves on the Government Operations and Health Policy committees.